

§ 115.3

§ 115.3 Definitions.

For the purpose of this part:

(a) *Certifying Authority*. “Certifying Authority” means a nonprofit firm or association, incorporated or established in the U.S., which the Commissioner finds competent to carry out the functions of this part and which he designates to certify containers and road vehicles for international transport under Customs seal.

(b) *Commissioner*. “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Customs.

(c) *Container*. “Container” means an article of transport equipment (lift van, portable tank, or other similar structure).

(1) Fully or partially enclosed to constitute a compartment intended for containing goods;

(2) Of a permanent character and strong enough to be suitable for repeated use;

(3) Specifically designed to facilitate the carriage of goods by one or more modes of transport, without intermediate reloading;

(4) Designed for ready handling, particularly its transfer from one mode of transport to another;

(5) Designed to be easily filled and emptied; and

(6) Having an internal volume of 1 cubic meter (35.3 cubic feet) or more.

(d) *Manufacturer*. “Manufacturer” means an organization or person constructing containers or road vehicles for certification in accordance with this chapter.

(e) *Prototype*. “Prototype” means a sample unit of a series of identical containers or road vehicles all built, so far as practical, under the same conditions.

(f) *Road vehicle*. “Road Vehicle”, as defined in Chapter 1, Article 1 of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention), November 14, 1975 (TIAS), means not only any power-driven road vehicle but also any trailer or semi-trailer designed to be coupled to it.

(g) *Customs and TIR/Container Plan*. “Customs and TIR/Container Plan” means the designer’s drawing of a vehicle (for TIR purposes) or container (for TIR and Container Convention purposes) that illustrates each require-

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ment in §§ 115.30, 115.40, 115.51, or 15.65, as appropriate to this part.

(h) The definitions in the subject Conventions shall be considered applicable to terms not specifically defined above.

§ 115.4 Conflicting provisions.

The provisions of the most recent TIR/Container Convention shall apply in the event of conflict between it and an earlier TIR/Container Convention covered by these regulations.

Subpart B—Administration

§ 115.6 Designated Certifying Authorities.

(a) *Certifying Authorities for containers and road vehicles*. The Commissioner has designated the following Certifying Authorities for containers and road vehicles as defined in this part:

(1) The American Bureau of Shipping, ABS Plaza, 16855 Northchase Drive, Houston, Texas 77060–6008;

(2) International Cargo Gear Bureau, Inc., 321 West 44th Street, New York, New York 10036;

(3) The National Cargo Bureau, Inc., 17 Battery Place, Suite 1232, New York, New York 10004–1110.

(b) *Certifying Authority for containers*. The Commissioner has designated Lloyd’s Register North America, Inc., 1401 Enclave Parkway, Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77077, as a Certifying Authority only for containers as defined in this part.

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§ 115.7 Designation of additional Certifying Authorities.

(a) The Commissioner may designate as a Certifying Authority any nonprofit firm or association that he finds competent to carry out the functions of §§ 115.8 through 115.14 of this subpart.

(b) Any designation as Certifying Authority may be terminated by the Commissioner.

§ 115.8 Certifying Authorities responsibilities—road vehicles.

(a) *General*. Road vehicles may be approved individually or by design type.

(b) *Individual approval.* The Certifying Authority to whom a road vehicle is submitted for approval shall inspect such road vehicle produced in accordance with the general rules contained in Annex 3 of the TIR Convention, 1975.

(c) *Design type approval.* The Certifying Authority to whom a road vehicle is submitted for design type approval shall examine the drawings and detailed design specifications submitted with the application for approval. The Certifying Authority shall advise the applicant of any changes that must be made to the proposed design type in order that approval may be granted. The Certifying Authority shall examine one or more vehicles to confirm that such vehicles comply with the technical conditions contained in Annex 2 of the TIR Convention, 1975. The Certifying Authority shall notify the applicant of its decision to grant design type approval, and it shall issue an approval certificate complying with Annexes 3 and 4 of the TIR Convention, 1975.

(d) *Supplementary examinations.* If a road vehicle approved by design type is the subject of an extended production run under one certificate of approval, the Certifying Authority shall confirm by examination of one or more road vehicles during the manufacturing process, or by other means, that such vehicles continue to meet the approved drawings and detailed design specifications and the technical requirements of Annex 2 of the TIR Convention, 1975.

For the purposes of this section, an extended production run shall be considered a continuous run of many units over long periods of time, as well as a new run following the completion of a previous run.

§ 115.9 Certifying Authorities responsibilities—containers.

(a) *General.* Containers may be approved for transport under seal by design type at the manufacturing stage or, otherwise, at a stage subsequent to manufacture.

(b) *Design type approval.* The Certifying Authority to whom a container is submitted for design type approval shall examine the drawings and detailed design specifications submitted

with the application for approval. The Certifying Authority shall advise the applicant of any changes that must be made to the proposed design type so that approval may be granted. The Certifying Authority shall examine one or more containers to confirm that such containers comply with the technical requirements of part 1, Annex 7, TIR Convention, 1975, and Annex 4 of the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972. The Certifying Authority shall issue a certificate authorizing the applicant to affix an approval plate, as described in appendix 1 to part II, Annex 7 of the TIR Convention, 1975, and Annex 5 of the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972, for all containers manufactured in conformity with the specifications of the type of container approved. This certificate shall comply with the model certificate in appendix 2, part II, Annex 7 of the TIR Convention, 1975, and appendix 2 of Annex 5 of the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972.

(c) *After manufacture.* The Certifying Authority to whom containers are submitted for approval after manufacture, shall examine as many containers as necessary to ascertain that they comply with the technical conditions prescribed in part 1, Annex 7, TIR Convention, 1975, and Annex 5 of the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972. The Certifying Authority shall issue a certificate of approval authorizing the applicant to affix an approval plate to the specific number or series of containers being approved. The certificate shall comply with the model certificate of approval in appendix 3, Part II, Annex 7, TIR Convention, 1975, and appendix 3, Annex 5, Customs Convention on Containers, 1972.

(d) *Supplementary examinations.* If a container approved by design type is the subject of an extended production run or several production runs under one certificate of approval, the Certifying Authority shall confirm by examination of one or more containers during the manufacturing process, or by other means, that such containers continue to meet the approved drawings and detailed design specifications and the technical requirements of Annex 7 of the TIR Convention, 1975, and Annex